



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION
DELAWARE FIRE SERVICE CENTER

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1463 CHESTNUT GROVE ROAD
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904

STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting

August 15, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kenneth H. McMahon, Chairman
W. (Bill) Betts, Jr., Vice Chairman
Francis J. Dougherty
Marvin C. Sharp
Raymond T. Stevens
Bob Ricker
Daniel W. Magee

Steven Martin, Deputy Director State Fire School
Willard F. Preston, State Fire Marshal
Sherry Lambertson, Administrative Specialist

GUESTS

Grover P. Ingle, Assistant State Fire Marshal
Richard R. Ward, Assistant State Fire Marshal
R.T. Leicht, S.F.M.O.
Kenny Pyle, D.V.F.A.
Kevin McSweeney, U of DE Fire Protection
Matt Schumacher, City of Newark Fire Marshal
Richard T. Perillo, Deputy Fire Marshal
Mark Yoder, Yoder's Care Center
Gary Long, Fire Protection Specialist

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman McMahon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REGULAR SESSION

APPROVAL OF JULY 18, 2006 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Dougherty, seconded by Commissioner Stevens that the minutes of the July 18, 2006 Commission meeting be approved as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

CALL FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman McMahon called for additional agenda items. Commissioner Magee added Rehoboth Beach. It was moved by Commissioner Magee, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

INTRODUCTION

Fire Marshal Preston introduced Gary Long to the commission as the new Fire Protection Specialist to work in Kent and Sussex County. He has an extensive history in fire related employment. The commission welcomed him. Fire Marshal Preston stated that we are fortunate to have someone of his caliber in the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Fire Marshal Preston introduced Richard Perillo as the new Kent County Deputy. He as well is a positive addition to the staff. Deputy Perillo was welcomed and Deputy Attorney General James Hanley administered the oath of office.

It was moved by Commissioner Magee, seconded by Commissioner Ricker to enter into Executive Session for personnel issues. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission entered Executive Session at 9:08 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Ricker, seconded by Commissioner Magee to go out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission exited the executive Session at 1:01 p.m.

YODER'S CARE CENTER, INC.

The Commission recessed from regular session for a scheduled appeal hearing at 1:00 p.m. with Yoder's Care Center, Inc. to discuss their appeal for them in Milford, Delaware. After some discussion with all parties involved, It was moved by Commissioner Ricker, seconded by Commissioner Magee to deny the appeal of Yoder's Care Center, Inc. on the grounds that it directly conflicts with the State Fire Prevention Regulations. Approving the appeal would be a life safety detriment to patients at the facility during fire emergency. Yoder's Care Center, Inc. did not give any compelling evidence to support the need for a variance of the regulations. Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR SESSION

Agency's Activity for the month of July is as follows: investigations 75- (criminal 27- /accidental 40- undetermined 8-); arrests 5-; inspections 981- (health care 3-/deputy 101/tech services -246 "QAP-395"); complaints-57; plan reviews 456-; PRUF revenue collected (July) \$164,462 year to date \$164,462; total overtime hours worked 260.2-; time off in hours (Deputies) 474.0 (vacation 64.5- /compensatory leave 34.5- /sick leave 247.5- /holiday 127.5- /compassionate 0.0)

Personnel Issues

Lou Ann Floyd started working as the Office Manager in the New Castle County office on August 7th. Karen Virdin is assisting her temporarily.

Office is currently waiting on a list from State Personnel to begin interviews for the Office Manager position in Kent County.

Bob Borkowski continues to do well with his recovery.

Crystal Beach had her military leave extended until September 30th. She remains active working on the DFIRS program.

Bob Fox was involved in a motor vehicle accident. The state car was totaled and he was slightly injured. A replacement vehicle is being worked on.

Randy Lee is out due to an off duty injury.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

DFIRS Update

The following fire companies are delinquent in DFIRS requirements.

- **New Castle County**

Belvedere	January – May
Holloway Terrace	May
Wilmington Manor	April & May

- **Kent County**

Clayton	May
Harrington	April
Hartly	May (partial)
Magnolia	May
South Bowers	May

- **Sussex County**

Blades	May
Delmar	May
Memorial	May

Hardwired Smoke Detectors

Fire Marshal Preston reported that there were eight hardwired smoke detector referrals last month with eight approved. 491 referrals have been approved to date. Contacts have been made with churches and civic organizations.

False Fire Alarms

The false fire alarm list is getting better. Although reporting is not where it is wanted, the office is getting more departments participating.

Kent County Office Water Issue/Well Issue

The water issue in the Kent County office has been repaired once again. As of now everything seems to be working properly.

Jurisdictional Fire Marshal's Meeting

A jurisdictional fire marshal's meeting was held in July. Newark has hired a new fire marshal and he will be called FM90. The new regulations were reviewed with the jurisdictional fire marshals. The camper areas at Dover Downs and the State Fair were addressed. Asst. State Fire Marshal Ward met with the State Fair and Dover Downs with positive results.

City of Wilmington Sprinkler High Rise Retro Fit Ordinance

Fire Marshal Preston discussed the discussion-taking place with the City of Wilmington requiring high-rise buildings to be retro fit with sprinkler systems.

Fatal Fire

Fire Marshal Preston reported on a fatal fire that involved a child and is still under investigation.

State Fair

The Fire Marshal's Office had a presence once again at the state fair. John Lattomus heads up that effort and did a great job once again. He reported that the table received a lot of interest.

Tidewater Utilities

A meeting was scheduled last month with the governor's office concerning Tidewater Utilities that was rescheduled because they sent us a non-responsive letter to our issue. Fire Marshal responded to them and told them he felt it was non-responsive and outlined the areas that he felt needed to be identified for corrective action. The meeting has been rescheduled for September. The Fire Marshal has still not received anything from Tidewater Utilities in response. He will need a response within at least a week of the meeting to be able to evaluate it.

ACTION ITEMS

No report at this time.

FIRE MARSHAL/FIRE SCHOOL

No report at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

No report at this time.

It was moved by Commissioner Ricker, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty to enter into Executive Session for personnel issues. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission entered Executive Session at 1:57 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Ricker, seconded by Commissioner Dougherty to go out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission exited the executive Session at 2:08 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

REPORT OF THE FIRE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Director/Staff Activity

The Director and Deputy Director attended the DEMA weather summit.

Several staff members attended the Firehouse Expo in Baltimore, MD.

The Director, Chris Murabito, and Robert Newnam had a conference call to Secure Data on the computer records system.

The Director thanks Mike Lowe, Kim Robinson, and everyone who put in much time at the State Fair and made it such a success.

Robert Newnam attended a DAFB tabletop exercise.

Pipeline Emergency Kits were distributed to the Fire Co. So far, Sta 43 is the only scheduled class.

The draft strategic plan was forwarded to the State.

Training colanders are complete.

Director/Staff Activity cont.

The Director had a conference call with the NFFF Life Safety advocates and had the eight missing Delaware companies added to their mailing list.

The Fire School is working on Proboard. There is a list of 9 pages of further questions from them.

Maintenance Issues/Projects

Completed Summer projects; testing of SCBA, replace smokehouse fan, replace two large tank props on gas pad, cleaned separators for the liquids pad, Expanded vehicle rescue pad and replaced sprinkler prop.

Still working on: improved security with Advantec locking system, building for trailer/virtual reality trailers, painting, and floor waxing.

Food Contract

The School has still not heard anything from the Attorney General on the food service contract. There is almost not time left to get a caterer for the Fall.

Financial Update

The financial statement was included in the information furnished to the Commissioners. There is nothing out of the ordinary to report at this time.

NFA Weekend

128 Students were at the NFA weekend. 16 including the Director and Mike Lowe were from Delaware. The weekend went very well with no problems. NFA Weekend is scheduled again for August 6 – 7, 2007.

FIRE MARSHAL/FIRE SCHOOL

Door System

The Fire School thanked the Fire Marshal Office for letting them tie into their door system and save a great deal of money.

ACTION ITEM

None at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mike Lowe's Fire Safety activity report was furnished to the Commissioners. The Fire School did a great job at the fair.

Kim Robinson gave the commission a report on the Risk Watch Annual Report.

REGULAR SESSION

REPORT OF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

No report at this time.

ACTION ITEM

Update on DVFA Progress for Substation Regulations

Commissioner Magee asked if the DVFA committee on substation regulations has met. Commissioner Sharp was not aware of a meeting yet and will advise the persons involved to do so. The Commission will send a letter as a reminder.

Rehoboth Beach Ambulance

Commissioner Ricker discussed Rehoboth Beach Vol. Fire Co. forming a committee to discuss going out of the ambulance business. Two commissioners' will meet with Rehoboth Beach and report back their findings.

It was moved by Commissioner Ricker, seconded by Vice Chairman Betts to enter into Executive Session for personnel issues. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission entered Executive Session at 2:18 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Ricker, seconded by Commissioner Magee to go out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission exited the executive Session at 6:32 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

GENERAL INFORMATION

No report at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

No report at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

No report at this time.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Kenneth H. McMahon

Chairman McMahon reported that he attended the Monthly Fire Prevention Commission Meeting, Meeting with DVFA Officers, New Castle County Chief's Meeting, M.I.S.C. Meeting, New Castle County Fireman's Meeting, Weather Summit, EMS Day at State Fair, NFA for Safer Grant 3 and Executive Meetings for Fire School.

Commissioner Marvin Sharp

Commissioner Sharp reported that he attended the Monthly Fire Prevention Commission Meeting, Kent County Firemen's Association Meeting and Sussex County Firemen's Association Meeting and Executive Meetings for Fire School.

Commissioner Francis J. Dougherty

Commissioner Dougherty reported that he attended the Monthly Fire Prevention Commission Meeting, Brandywine Hundred Fire Company Meeting, New Castle Chief's Meeting, Fire Marshal Interviews in Dover and New Castle County Firemen's Association Meeting and Executive Meetings for Fire School.

Vice Chairman Willard Betts, Jr.

Vice Chairman Betts reported that he attended the Monthly Fire Prevention Commission Meeting and Kent County Chief's Meeting and Executive Meetings for Fire School.

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Commissioner Bob Ricker

Commissioner Ricker reported that he attended the Monthly Fire Prevention Commission Meeting, Sussex Chief's Meeting, EMS Event at Fair, Lawrence Sammons Birthday Sta. 75, Conference Call, Meeting with Ron Marvel and Dan Short and Executive Meetings for Fire School.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

September 19, 2006
Commission Chamber
Delaware Fire Service Center
1463 Chestnut Grove Road
Dover, DE 19904

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Ricker, seconded by Vice Chairman Betts that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry R. Lambertson
Administrative Specialist

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